



# Town of Westford

## Strategic Planning Retreat

### June 19, 2014 5:30 PM

### Kimball Farm

**5:15 – 5:30 Registration**

**5:30 – 5:40 Welcome, opening remarks, and overview of event**

*Andrea Peraner-Sweet, Board of Selectmen Chair and Jodi Ross, Town Manager*

**5:40 – 6:30 Facilitated Discussions Session #1**

- ***1a. Community Housing:*** *Joan Croteau, Affordable Housing Committee Chair; Christine Pude, Executive Director Westford Housing Authority; Chris Kluchman, Director of Land Use Management*  
Discuss the roles and differences between the Affordable Housing Committee, Affordable Housing Trust, and the Housing Authority. Investigate the advantages of promoting Community Housing and the disadvantages of the high cost of housing for our residents and businesses. Learn about Chapter 40B and our Subsidized Housing Inventory, and discuss where Westford stands in attaining its goal of 10%. Offer your opinions about Community Housing throughout Town.
- ***1b. Protecting and Improving Our Water Resources*** *Paul Starratt, Town Engineer; Stephen Cronin, Water Superintendent*  
How Westford manages stormwater runoff impacts the water quality of our lakes and streams and affects our ability to provide adequate clean water for residential and business use. Discuss the impact of three closely connected initiatives on our residents and future development in our town; the state's proposed Sustainable Water Management Initiative and our community's Stormwater Management Master Plan and Healthy Lakes and Ponds Initiative. Facilitate feedback from attendees regarding individual concerns and suggestions to protect Westford's water resources

**6:30 – 7:10 Dinner / Poster Exhibits**

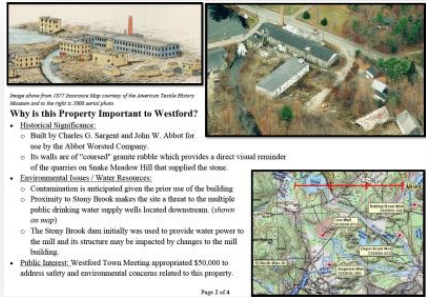


**7:10 – 8:00 Facilitated Discussions Session #2**

- ***2a. Recreation Master Plan:*** *Kacy Caviston, Parks and Recreation Commission Chair and Chris Barrett, Parks and Recreation Commission; Pat Savage, Recreation, Parks, and Cemetery Director.*  
What areas, facilities, and programs should the town offer our residents? What strategic goals and objectives for recreation should be developed in the next five years? What improvements to services, programming, and facilities should be incorporated into a five year master plan?
- ***2b. Agricultural Commission Initiatives:*** *Elizabeth Almeida, Zoe Stapp Agricultural Commission*  
The Agricultural Commission will discuss Westford's agricultural history, where we are today, and our hope for agriculture in the future. The Commission will seek feedback on how to prioritize potential projects and focus on the community's agricultural needs.

**8:00 – 8:10 Break for Ice Cream**

**8:10 – 8:30 Final Wrap-up** Brief recap of the ideas and issues identified in each session

Preview of Poster Exhibits:

<p><b>12 North Main Street</b> Update on the status of the abandoned industrial site, including contamination and structural concerns. Seek input to help establish a vision for reuse.</p>  <p><i>Design shown from 1977 American Ship Company of the American Pacific Shipyards, and in the 1940s-1950s aerial photo.</i></p> <p><b>Why is this Property Important to Westford?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Historical Significance:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Built by Charles G. Sargent and John W. Abbott for use by the Abbott Westwood Company.</li> <li>Its walls are of "concrete" granite rubble which provides a direct visual reminder of the quarries on Snake Meadow Hill that supplied the stone.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Environmental Issues: Water Resources:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contamination is anticipated given the prior use of the building.</li> <li>Proximity to Stony Brook makes the site a threat to the multiple public drinking water supply wells located downstream (shown on map).</li> <li>The Stony Brook dam initially was used to provide water power to the mill and its structure may be impacted by changes to the mill building.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Public Interest:</b> Westford Town Meeting appropriated \$50,000 to address safety and environmental concerns related to this property.</li> </ul> <p><small>Page 2 of 4</small></p>	<p><b>Economic Development</b> Update on Economic Development Committee activities</p> 
<p><b>Green Community Information</b> Update on energy efficiency initiatives the town is pursuing and the progress made towards goal of 20% reduction by 2017. Discuss what resources are available to residents interested in sustainability.</p> 	<p><b>Center Fire Station</b> Information about the RFP currently out and present alternatives already examined for reconfiguration, relocation or reconstruction of the Center Station.</p> <p><b>Town Buildings Facility Study</b> Present preliminary information received from facility study including prioritization of our maintenance needs.</p>

Please note: all retreat materials including follow-up reports are available at: [www.westfordma.gov/retreat](http://www.westfordma.gov/retreat).